

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 3, 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Creating a Climate of Suspicion that the Soviets
are Testing Clandestinely

In the light of the President's query at this Thursday's NSC meeting as to whether we could say publicly that we have grounds for believing that the Soviets are testing, could we urgently explore this possibility?

The objective would be to determine what we could credibly say officially, as well as float unattributably, to validate a contention that the Soviets might be testing clandestinely. I realize that problems of compromising sensitive intelligence might be involved, but feel that we should have a clear exposition of the costs versus the potential gains.

McGeorge Bundy

McGEORGE BUNDY

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE *100-100000-100000*)

NSC review(s) completed.

